

21. (new) A computer-implemented method of updating and deleting values of attributes in a database held in computer-readable memory, the database having stored in it in computer-readable memory a summary position in which attributes have associated with them a valid start time from which the value of the attribute will hold true and a valid end time up to which the value of the attribute will hold true, and a transaction time associated with the summary position at which transaction time the valid start time and valid end time of the value of the attribute are true, the method comprising using a computer processor to perform updating and deleting logical operations on the values of attributes held in computer-readable memory by inserting into the database in computer-readable memory a new insert summary position with a new [particular] transaction time without altering any existing summary position in said computer-readable memory, logical update and delete of valid start time and valid end time for a value of an attribute being achieved by inserting the new summary position into said computer-readable memory with a different valid start time or valid end time that is to be true for the new [particular] transaction time.

Please add new claim 22

22. (New) A computer-implemented method of changing data stored in a computer-readable bi-temporal relational database that is stored in computer-readable memory, the database having stored in computer readable memory a summary position in which attributes have associated with them a valid start time from which the value of the attribute will hold true and a valid end time up to which the value of the attribute will hold true, and a transaction time associated with the summary position at which transaction time the valid start time and valid end time of the value of the attribute are true, the method comprising performing updating and deleting logical operations on the values of attributes by inserting into the database computer-readable memory a new insert summary position with a new transaction time without altering any existing summary position held in said computer-readable memory, logical update and delete of valid start time and valid end time for a value of an attribute being achieved by inserting the new summary position with a different valid start time or valid end time that is to be true for the new transaction time.